

1894-95

Retail Price-List of

# Bulbs, Seeds, and Plants.

*offered by*

**ROBERT H. ASHER,**

**LA MESA, CALIF.**

**TERMS:** Cash with order, unless by special agreement.

Calla lilies and Amaryllis bulbs taken in exchange.

Prices are for delivery to El Cajon, La Mesa or San Diego. If to be sent by mail add one-fifth for bulbs and plants.

## BULBS, GENERAL LIST.

- AGAPANTHUS UMBELLATUS, the blue African lily or love flower. 25c each.
- AMARYLLIS BELLADONNA. 25c each, \$2.50 per doz.
- “ FORMOSISSIMA. 20c each, \$2 per doz.
- CALADIUM ESCULENTUM (Elephant's Ears). 10c each, 75c per doz.
- CALOCHORTUS FLAVUS, Golden shell flower of Mexico. \$3 per 100, 50c dz.
- FREESIA REFRACTA ALBA. Large bulbs \$1 per 100, 20c per doz.
- MILLA BIFLORA. 50c per doz, \$3 per 100.
- SPIDER LILY. 25c each, \$2.50 per doz.
- RICHARDIA AFRICANA. Large calla bulbs, 10 and 15c each.
- SELAGINELLA PILIFERA. A curious resurrection plant from Mexico. 15c.
- OXALIS FLORIBUNDA, alba, and rosea. 5c each, 40c per doz.
- HEMEROCALLIS. Double orange lily, 25c each, \$2.50 per doz.
- NARCISSUS. Chinese "Joss Flower." 10c each, \$1 per doz. Choice mixed, 25c per doz, \$1.50 per 100.
- TULIP DUC VAN THOL. 5c each, 50c per doz; good mixed 5c, 50c per doz.
- HYACINTHS. Mixed, single or double, separate colors, 6c, 50c per doz.
- HYACINTHUS CANDICANS. (Giant summer hyacinth), grows two to three feet high, large white bell-shaped flowers, 10c each, \$1 per doz.
- ZEPHRANTHES ALBA. Evergreen foliage, large pure white flower, easily grown. 3 for 10c, 35c per doz.
- Z. ROSEA. Large deep rose, pink lily-like flowers. 5c each, 50c doz.
- LILIUM HARRISH (The true Bermuda Easter lily). Large pure white flowers, one of the grandest lilies in existence. 15c each, \$1.25 per doz.
- LILIUM CANDIDUM. (Annunciation or Madonna lily). Well known. Snow white, fragrant blossoms. 15c each, \$1.25 per doz.
- NARCISSUS. Choice named varieties:
- ARD-PIGIL, or Irish King 10c each, \$1 per doz.
- OBVALLARIUS. 5c each, 50c per doz.
- TRUMPET MAJOR. 5c each, 50c per doz.
- HORSFIELDII. 20c each.

- PRINCEPS. 5c each, 50c per doz.  
 SCOTICUS. 5c each, 40c per doz.  
 PALLIDUS PRAECOX. 5c each, 40c per doz.  
 LEEDSII. 3 for 10c, 30c per doz.  
 STELLA. 3 for 10c, 30c per doz.  
 SIR WATKIN. "The Giant Chalice Flower," or "Big Welshman."  
 Immense flowers, sometimes measuring 5½ inches across, being the largest  
 variety grown. 35c each.  
 INCOMPARABLE FL. PL. 3 for 10c, 25c per doz.  
 ALBA PLENA ODORATA. 3 for 10c, 25c per doz.  
 ORANGE PHŒNIX. 5c each, 50c per doz.  
 SULPHUR (or Silver) Phœnix. 20c each, \$1.75 per doz.  
 VON SION. 3 for 10, 30c per doz.  
 PAPER WHITE. 3 for 10c, 30c per doz.  
 PAPER WHITE. Large flowered. 5c each, 40c per doz.  
 TIGRIDIA PAVONIA CONCHIFLORA. 10c each, \$1 per doz.  
 GLADIOLUS. The Bride (Colvilli alba). 5c each, 50c per doz. Mixed  
 white and light, 50c per doz; scarlet and red, 40c per doz; pink, 60c per  
 doz; striped and variegated, 60c per doz.

## CULTURE OF CALIFORNIA BULBS

To successfully grow these bulbs in such a climate as California or Oregon, where 5 degrees below the freezing point marks the lowest degree of cold, is the easiest matter possible. No injury from freezing is to be feared under such conditions.

Bulbs should be planted early in the fall. As with tulips a deep soil is to be avoided. If put in the open ground it is better to have a firm packed soil at six inches depth; but large boxes 8 or 10 inches deep and well drained are preferable. In the East or in any cold climate Brodiaeas, Erythroniums and Star tulips are fairly hardy when given good drainage and plenty of leaves for protection: but by far the best place is in the cold frame. The very best reports are received from bulbs so treated.

Plant in shallow earthen pans, water sparingly, see that drainage is good, and you can depend on a satisfactory bloom wherever they are planted.

Don't water continually. Soak up occasionally and leave alone as long as soil is barely moist.

Don't use coarse rank manure, either barnyard or other.

Don't force too much. The longer the growing season the better.

Don't water after blooming—dry off, and if they cannot be kept dry, take up and lay away in a dry place.

Don't think because California is a warm country that the winter climate is hot. The ground is often frozen stiff for a week at a time where these bulbs are native, and heat is to be avoided until the time of blooming. It will not hurt them if the leaves are occasionally frozen stiff.

SOILS. For Brodiaeas, Camassia, and Fritillarias any well drained light soil, sandy loam with a little leaf mold preferable.

Star Tulips do best in loam mixed with coarse river sand, well drained.

Butterfly Tulips do well in a sandy loam or light clay loam, firm around the bulbs. Of all things avoid a rich stimulating soil with these.

Erythroniums need shade and a light well drained soil of which leaf mold is a principal constituent.

Reports from the east this year show that Brodiaeas will grow there in any garden soil and are perfectly hardy.

Lilies should have a well drained soil, sandy, with some leaf mold. Plant six inches deep. Embed and cover each bulb with a handful or two of sand.

# BRODIÆA

Brodiaëas have a small bulb, and grassy leaves. The stalks are erect and slender, leafless, and terminated by a head or umbel of lily-like flowers. All are pretty and some strikingly beautiful. *B. coccinea* and *B. volubilis* are among the finest novelties of recent years, and will with some others take a permanent place as standard bulbs.

Few bulbous plants are more reliable bloomers than Brodiaëas, or more readily adapt themselves to any soil or situation. The bulbs themselves are a recommendation, as they are light, not easily bruised, or at all subject to decay, and can be exposed for months in a hot dry air without the least injury (see cultural directions). Ripe July 1st.

**Orcuttii.** Of great botanical interest from lack of staminodia: of a beautiful lavender color; strong in habit. 10 1 00

**Capitata** Early; heads large, lavender color. 05 35

**Coccinea.** Floral Fire Cracker. The cuts well describe it. One to three feet high. The pendulous flowers  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to 2 inches long, rich crimson with pea-green tip. Of this lovely plant it may be said that in beauty, novelty and susceptibility to cultivation it is not excelled. Fine bulbs, 10c each, 50c per dozen

**Volubilis** Twining Hyacinth. This great novelty is a true Brodiaëa. Soon after the slender, leafless stems start, and while yet the flower bud is a mere dot, it begins to twine, until when the delicate rose-pink flowers unfold, it is five feet high with a total stem length often of double that. As a novelty it is unique.

**Brodiaëas, mixed:** A fine mixture.  $\frac{1}{2}$  doz., 20c;  $\frac{3}{4}$  C, \$1 25

# CALOCHORTUS

## SECTION I. (MARIPOSA OR BUTTERFLY TULIPS.)

These beautiful bulbous plants have small bulbs with grassy leaves, stiff, leafy, equally branched stems, six inches to several feet high, bearing from a few to fifteen or twenty flowers. The flowers are erect, cup-shaped and very brilliant. In some the colors are solid or nearly so, but in the many varieties of *Calochortus venustus*, the true Butterfly Tulips, the flowers are in the richest combination of colors, with spots, dots, lines, eyes and hairs to vie with the most brilliant butterfly, making them second to no known flower in brilliancy, and well deserving the name Butterfly Tulip with its Spanish equivalent, Mariposa (a butterfly). The bulbs like Brodiaëas are very easily handled dry, ripening here early in July, excepting where noted (see Cultural Directions).

### Splendens.

The type of the species. Very large flowers fully 3 inches across, light lavender at center, shading to lilac, and full of cobwebby hairs. Ripe in July. Each 5c,  $\frac{1}{2}$  doz 50c

**V. ATROVIOLACEA.** Has small purple flowers with a dark red spot at base of each petal. Very pretty. Ripe in July. Each 5c, per dozen 50c

### Venustus.

**V. OCULATUS.** Two to three feet high when well grown. Petals frequently 2 inches across and 2 inches deep, with open flower 3 inches across. White ground inside with eye-like spots, at center beautifully lined in several colors. Reddish brown outside. A perfect beauty. Ripe July 1st. Each 5c, per dozen 50c

**V. CITRINUS.** Exactly like preceding except the ground is lemon yellow. Very highly esteemed. Ripe July 1st. Each 5c, per dozen 50c

**V. PURPURASCENS.** In this species we have even a more vigorous grower than in *var. oculatus*. It offsets freely, the offsets blossoming by the third year. It stands a heavier, more clayey soil and more moisture. The flowers are fully 3 inches across, full in outline, purplish lilac outside and at top of petal, creamy white half way, purple at center, beautifully eyed and lined. Ripe July 15th. Each 5c, per dozen 50c

**V. ROSEUS.** Rather dwarfed, 6 inches high and flowers seldom 2 inches across, but in coloring the most wonderful. Creamy inside with rose-colored blotch at top of petal, fine eye midway red lines at base, rich carmine without. Ripe August 1st.

Each 5c, per dozen 50c

**Weedii.** This is one of the finest of the Mariposa Tulips, two to three feet high, producing several large and brilliant orange yellow fls., delicately dotted with brown and covered with silky hairs. Each 10c, per dozen \$1

SECTION II (STAR TULIPS.)

These have a single long shiny leaf often a foot long, slender branching stalks bearing many blossoms. In some species globular and pendulous, in others cup-shaped and erect or semi-erect. As the Butterfly Tulip surpasses in brilliancy, the Star Tulip is the perfection of delicacy, and is graceful in every outline. Plants of the woodland.

**Albus** Fairy Bell. A strong grower, often a foot high and very floriferous. Flowers an inch in diameter, perfect globes of pearly white edged with silky hairs and hanging like bells. Ripe in June. Each 5c, per dozen 50c

**Pulchellus** Strong growing. Flowers globular and pendant, of good size, rich yellow. This and C. albus are the best of the Star Tulips. Ripe in June. Two for 15c, per dozen 70c

**Benthami** Is exactly like C. pulchellus with open cup-shaped rich yellow flowers with black spots at base of each petal. It charms every one.

2 for 15c, 75c per doz

## LILIUM

[250 at the rate per 1000]

**Humboldti.** This is the largest of California lilies and very showy. Flowers orange with black spots. Large sized bulbs weigh packed 60 lbs to the 100, medium sized, 30 or 40 lbs to the 100.

25 2 50

**Pardalinum** Red and orange, brown spotted. This species thrives everywhere in good garden soil and is probably the most vigorous lily grown. It should be widely planted. I offer very fine garden-grown bulbs of fine quality and good size.

15 1 50

**Washingtonianum** A large lily with pure white, fragrant flowers. 3 to 5 feet high. My supply is of medium sized, very solid bulbs which carry finely. Size 9 to 11 inches.

30 3 00

**Parryi.** This is the rarest and most beautiful of the California lilies. Clear, lemon yellow with a few purple spots deep in the throat. Very fragrant. This lily is rather difficult to grow. Orders taken to be filled next season.

35 3 50

**DELPHINIUM CARDINALE.** The scarlet larkspur. One of our most showy native plants. Dry roots 25c each, \$2.50 per doz.

**ROSES.** The leading sorts in Hybrids, Teas, Noisettes and Polyanthus. Mail plants, 15c each, \$1 per doz. Very strong 2-year from open ground, 25c to 50c each.

**CAMPHOR TREES.** 18 to 30 inches high, 50c to 75c each.

**SWEET PEA SEED.** Ecksford's large flowering mixed. Pkt 10c, oz 20c. Primrose, yellow; Countess of Radnor, lavender; Delight, white flushed rosy pink; Duchess of Edinburgh, standards orange scarlet, wings rosy crimson; Mrs. Sankey, white; Mrs. Gladstone, exquisite blush pink; Orange Prince standards, orange pink, wings pink; Apple Blossom, bright rosy pink standards, blush wings; Isa Ecksford, creamy white, suffused rosy pink; Splendor, coppery crimson; Red and White striped; Cardinal, a grand scarlet; Princess of Wales, standards striped white and blue, wings heliotrope and white striped. Any of above 10c per pkt, 35c per oz.